



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/815,257	03/22/2001	Yutaka Kamezaki	55521 (70904)	6515

7590 02/25/2003
Edwards & Angell, LLP
P.O. Box 9169
Boston, MA 02209

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CHANH DUY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2675

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/815,257

Applicant(s)

KAMEZAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Chanh Nguyen

Art Unit

2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) /
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The references listed on the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 13, 2001 have been entered and considered by examiner; see attached PTO-1449.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

4. Claims 24-26 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Osamu et al (JP 2585463).

As to claim 24, Osamu discloses a driving method of a display device (1) which output display scanning signal (Figure 6, signals indicated as Y1-Y480) respectively to

Art Unit: 2675

scanning signal lines (21) based on display data, and outputting display data signal (SIG) respect to data signal data lines (11) bases on the display data so as to display an image which is in accordance with the display data with respect to pixels (61) which are disposed on a matrix having a partial display function for a non-image area (23, 25) and an image display area (22). Osamu teaches the display scanning signals (Y1-Y40 and Y401-Y480) and the display data signals (SIG 81) simultaneously outputted with respect to the respect to scanning lines and respective data signal lines which correspond to the non image area (23, 25); see Figures 5-6.

As to claim 33, this claim differs from claim 24 only in that claim 24 is method claim whereas claim 33 is apparatus. Thus, apparatus claim 33 is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to method claim 24 above.

As to claim 25-26, the claimed limitations one horizontal period and two horizontal periods are clearly taught by Osamu as shown in figure 6.

5. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sato et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,232,939).

As to claim 1, Saito discloses a display device driving circuit which includes a scanning lines driving section (e.g., 30, 32-33) for outputting display scanning signal (G1-G769) based on display data respectively to scanning signal lines (12) for displaying an image accordance to the display data with respect to pixels (16) which are disposed on the matrix 10). Saito teaches the display device driving circuit including a

Art Unit: 2675

control means (30, 32-33) for controlling the output of the display scanning signal (G1-G769) from the scanning line driving section (30, 32-33) to the respectively scanning lines (12) so that the display scanning signals (e.g., G2-G3) are outputting simultaneously with respect to the plurality of scanning lines (12) based on a transition instruction signal (e.g., VCLK1) for causing a transition from successive output (e.g., G1-G2) to simultaneous output (e.g., G2-G3) with respect to the output of the display scanning signals to the respectively scanning signal lines; see Figure 13.

As to claim 9, this claim differs from claim 1 only in that the limitation input means is additionally recited. Saito clearly teaches an input means (e.g., 30, 32-33) for receiving a transition instruction signal (e. g., VCLK1) as recited in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

Art Unit: 2675

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims 2-8, 10-16, 17-23, 27-32 and 34-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito in view of Osamu.

As to claim 17, note the discussion of Saito above, claim 17 differs from claim 1 only in the limitation a non-image area and an image display area is additionally recited. Thus, Saito discloses the driving method of a display device as recited in claim 17 with exception of describing the non-image area and the image display area. In same field of endeavor, Osamu teaches an a non-image area (23 and 25) and an image display area (24) as previously discussed with respect o claim 17 above. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to have used the non-image area and the image display area as taught by Osamu to the display device of Saito so as to prevent the malfunction of liquid crystal by impressing a certain voltage of a non-display signal; see objection of the invention of Osamu.

As to claim 27, this claim differs from claim 17 only in that claim 17 is method claim whereas claim 27 is apparatus. Thus, apparatus claim 27 is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to method claim 17 above.

As to dependent claims 2-8, 10-16, 18-23, 28-32 and 34-39, these dependent claims are met by Saito and Osamu as previously discussed with respect to independent claims 1, 9, 17, 24, 27 and 33 above.

Art Unit: 2675

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure

Koyama et al (U.S. patent No. 6,469,686) is cited to teaches non-image region and image display region.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-6603.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner supervisor, Steven Saras can be reached at 305-9720.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121
Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist)


Art Unit: 2675

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

CM

C. Nguyen

January 13, 2002


CHANH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER